11th August 1956]

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not know the existence of canine officers. The hon. Member will please enlighten me on that and perhaps he may contact those officers and find out what they are doing.

Sri S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM : Sir, are the Government aware of the fact that of late certain gangsters are arranging to commit thefts near railway stations on the eve of arrival of certain trains and immediately after the commission of thefts they get into the trains? If that is so, what steps do the Government propose to take?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not have particular information with regard to the methods referred to by the hon. Member. But I am sure, the Police are aware of the activities and methods of these various gangs and are taking necessary steps to prevent them.

* 42 *Q.*—Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that cases of highway robbery are on the increase near the Magnesite Mines on the trunk road between Omalur and Salem ; and

(*b*) if so, the steps taken by the police to detect the cases and to prevent recurrence of the menace?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM : ஓமலூருக்கும் சேலத்திற்கும் மத்தியிலே இருக்கும் ரஸ்தாவில் வாரத்திற்கு இரண்டு முறை வழிப் போக்கர்கள் வழிமறிக்கப்பட்டு வண்டியிலேயிருக்கும் கனத்த சாமான்கள்கூட தூக்கிச் செல்லப்படுகின்றன. இது போலீஸ் அதிகாரிகளுக்கும் தெரிந்த விஷயம். அப்படியிருந்தும், அம்மாதிரி நடக்கவேயில்லையென்று எப்படி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்கிறார்கள் என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, the question is whether there were any cases of highway robbery. That is a technical term and technically there was no highway robbery. But it has been brought to my notice that there were two cases of theft relating to some tamarind and grains which were being carried in carts along the road, one on 29th November 1955 and another on 4th March 1956. The hon. Member, who was taking rest in his father-in-law's house, has brought these incidents to the notice of the police. Immediately action was taken and I am told that the hon. Member has also been informed about it.

Opening of a new Engineering College at Madras

* 43 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the State Government have given permission to the management of the Polytechnic College, Coimbatore, to open an Engineering College at Madras during the year 1956? 9-10 a.m.